

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stumpf at 8:31 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room at Town Offices. The meeting was live cablecast.

In attendance were Chairman S. Jon Stumpf-Y, John Barry-Y, Margaret (Peggy) Kruse-Y, Joanne Marden-Y, Paul Fortier-Y, Linn Anderson-Y, and Eugenie (Janie) Moffitt-Y. Also present was Donna Walsh, Finance Director. Absent was Greg Serrao.

**Warrant Articles****Article 9B: Funding OPEB Trust Fund - \$1,000,000**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Kruse and seconded by Mr. Barry, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 9B in the total amount of \$1,000,000. Motion passed 7-0.

**Article 4: FY2015 Budget - Town****Public Safety - \$15,537,890**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Public Safety, in the total amount of \$15,537,890, including offsets of \$200,000 in parking receipts, \$70,000 in detail fees, and \$1,335,500 in ambulance collections. Motion passed 7-0.

**General Government and Community Development and Town/School IT - \$7,423,134**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item General Government and Community Development and Town/School IT, in the total amount of \$7,423,134, including offsets of \$25,000 in receipts from wetland filing fees. Motion passed 7-0.

**Municipal Services (DPW/P&F) - \$10,585,750**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Municipal Services (DPW/P&F), in the total amount of \$10,585,750, including offsets of \$65,000 in rental receipts and \$56,000 in cemetery revenue. Motion passed 7-0.

**Library - \$2,629,517**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Library, in the total amount of \$2,629,517. Motion passed 7-0.

**Community/Youth/Elder Services - \$1,758,755**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Community/Youth/Elder Services, in the total amount of \$1,758,755, including offsets of \$500,000 and \$50,000 in user fees and \$55,000 in grants. Motion passed 7-0.

**Unclassified - \$750,000**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Unclassified, in the total amount of \$750,000. Motion passed 7-0.

**Article 4: FY2015 Budget – School**

Mr. Stumpf opened the discussion by summarizing the various meetings he had with the School Committee Chairperson and other school department personnel and Finance Committee liaisons. Mr. Stumpf reported that he felt things were moving in a positive direction and he expected that requested information will be forthcoming at the Triboard Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>, and that based on this assumption, a recommendation by the Finance Committee could be so made.

**School Department - \$70,904,452**

Following discussion and upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item School Department, in the total amount of \$70,904,452. Motion passed 7-0.

**Article 4: FY2015 Budget – Water and Sewer****Sewer - \$2,382,248**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Sewer, in the total amount of \$2,382,248. Motion passed 7-0.

**Water - \$4,566,778**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Water, in the total amount of \$4,566,778. Motion passed 7-0.

**Article 4: FY2015 Budget – Obligations****Technical Schools - \$513,508**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Technical Schools, in the total amount of \$513,508. Motion passed 7-0.

**Debt Service - \$14,998,239**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Debt Service, in the total amount of \$14,998,239, including offsets of \$336,638 from Cable Funds. Motion passed 7-0.

**General Insurance - \$714,686**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item General Insurance, in the total amount of \$714,686. Motion passed 7-0.

**Unemployment Compensation - \$150,000**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Unemployment Compensation, in the total amount of \$150,000. Motion passed 7-0.

**Retirement Fund - \$6,412,115**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Retirement Fund, in the total amount of \$6,412,115. Motion passed 7-0.

**Health Insurance Fund - \$15,840,957**

Following discussion, upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item Health Insurance, in the total amount of \$15,840,957. Motion passed 7-0.

**OPEB Funding - \$400,000**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Fortier, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Article 4, Line Item OPEB Funding, in the total amount of \$400,000. Motion passed 7-0.

**Finance Committee Report**

Ms. Marden opened the discussion on the amount to be mentioned in the Finance Committee Report for the tax levy limit. Should it be rounded from \$1,100,000 to \$1,000,000. Following discussion, it was agreed that the amount be rounded to approximately \$1,000,000.

Regarding discussion on the dog park, the Finance Committee reiterated its position that it recommended disapproval.

Mr. Stumpf reported that the Finance Committee letter is currently being developed. Ms. Anderson reported that the draft letter would be circulated amongst members. She suggested the Committee reflect on the inclusion of specific information in the letter and refer changes to her. Mr. Stumpf suggested that the members review the articles in conjunction with the “big” issues that need to be stated.

**Excess Levy Capacity Discussion**

Ms. Marden suggested members reflect on the importance of keeping \$1,000,000 in excess tax levy capacity. Discussion followed on the sustainability of this policy over time on the rate of increase, and striking the right balance on providing services.

**Miscellaneous**

At the request of Ms. Anderson who was absent from the previous meeting, Mr. Stumpf reviewed the Committee’s position on Article 5 - Capital Funding as well as Article 40 - Technology Hardware and Software. Also reviewed was Article 42 – School Site Improvements.

Ms. Marden reported she had reviewed the citizen letter from last year and as a result she has added a line under the financial impact boxes of amount requested with interest added for a total amount.

**Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Fortier and seconded by Mr. Barry, the Committee voted to adjourn. The motion passed 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford  
Recording Secretary